

## Overview

Road to IELTS is organised around the four test papers: Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. Each paper has four sections, and there is a Resource Bank with preparation materials for the IELTS test as a whole.

### 1. Starting Out



A video and ebook introduce each skill area, explaining task types and providing hints not only on how to prepare, but also on what the examiner is looking for, and how to achieve the best marks on test day.

### 2. Advice and Tutorials



In a series of videos, British Council experts give advice, both specific (e.g. skimming the first sentence in each paragraph in the Reading test) and general (e.g. dealing with nerves in the Speaking test).

### 3. Practice Zone



With more than 300 focused activities, candidates practise tackling the whole range of task types and familiarise themselves with the format of the test. Activities are interactive and many have feedback.

### 4. Test Practice



Candidates simulate the test experience with nine full mock tests in each of the Reading, Writing, and Listening papers (with answer keys), and nine simulations of Part 2 of the Speaking test.

### Resource Bank



#### Study Planner

This worksheet encourages candidates to reflect on their strengths and weaknesses and draw up intelligent plans for test preparation.

#### Candidate videos

In this series of British Council videos, successful candidates give advice on preparation strategies that worked for them.

#### Study Guides

The five downloadable Study Guides cover the most common FAQs for each paper and for test preparation and test day itself.



## Reading

### Starting Out



Format: PDF & video

Information about the IELTS Reading test, including explanations of question types

### Advice and Tutorials



Format: Video

- **Title: IELTS Reading Advice**
- Advice on how to improve performance in the IELTS Reading test

### Test Practice



Format: Printable question papers

9 downloadable mock test papers of the IELTS Reading test, covering all question types; includes model answers

### Practice Zone



Format: Interactive activities with reading texts, organised into 12 individual sets

#### Set 1

- Short answer questions
- Table completion

Topic: *Leisure and entertainment*

#### Set 2

- Matching information to paragraphs
- Sentence completion

Topic: *Language and communication*

#### Set 3

- Matching headings to paragraphs
- Multiple choice

Topic: *Travel, tourism and transport*

#### Set 4

- Diagram completion
- True, False, Not given

Topic: *Environment*

#### Set 5

- Classification
- Yes, No, Not given

Topic: *Art and culture*

#### Set 6

- Multiple selection
- Summary completion

Topic: *Mass media*

#### Set 7

- Table completion
- Short answer questions
- Matching

Topic: *Health and fitness*

#### Set 8

- Multiple selection
- Classification
- Diagram completion

Topic: *Work and business*

#### Set 9

- Matching headings to sections
- True, False, Not given
- Yes, No, Not given
- Summary completion

Topic: *Society and social issues*

#### Set 10

- Short answer questions
- Sentence completion
- Multiple choice
- Matching information to paragraphs
- Matching
- Yes, No, Not given

Topic: *Education*

#### Set 11

- Matching
- Multiple selection
- Summary completion
- Diagram completion
- True, False, Not given

Topic: *Developing world*

#### Set 12

- Matching headings to paragraphs
- True, False, Not given
- Sentence completion
- Table completion
- Classification
- Summary completion

Topic: *Science and technology*

## Listening

### Starting Out



Format: PDF & video

Information about the IELTS Listening test, including explanations of question types

### Advice and Tutorials



Format: Video

- **Title: IELTS Listening Advice**
- Advice on how to improve performance in the IELTS Listening test

### Test Practice



Format: Printable question papers, audio recordings

9 downloadable mock test papers of the IELTS Listening test, with accompanying audio files and model answers

### Practice Zone



Format: Interactive activities, organised into 12 individual sets

#### Set 1

- Short answer questions
- Table completion

Topic: Leisure and entertainment

#### Set 2

- Sentence completion
- Matching

Topic: Language and communication

#### Set 3

- Multiple choice

Topic: Travel, tourism and transport

#### Set 4

- Form completion
- Labelling a diagram

Topic: Environment

#### Set 5

- Form completion
- Classification

Topic: Art and culture

#### Set 6

- Multiple selection
- Summary completion

Topic: Mass media

#### Set 7

- Table completion
- Short answer questions
- Labelling a diagram

Topic: Health and science

#### Set 8

- Form completion
- Multiple selection
- Multiple choice
- Sentence completion

Topic: Work and business

#### Set 9

- Form completion
- Multiple choice
- Classification
- Summary completion

Topic: Society and social issues

#### Set 10

- Table completion
- Form completion
- Short answer questions
- Sentence completion
- Classification
- Diagram completion

Topic: Education

#### Set 11

- Multiple choice
- Sentence completion
- Matching
- Labelling a diagram

Topic: Developing world

#### Set 12

- Form completion
- Multiple selection
- Short answer questions
- Sentence completion
- Classification

Topic: Science and technology

## Speaking

### Starting Out

Format: PDF & video



Information about the IELTS Speaking test, including explanations and tips on delivering the best possible performance

### Test Practice

Format: Task cards, audio recordings



9 practice tests for IELTS Speaking Part 2

### Practice Zone

Format: Interactive activities, organised into 12 individual sets



#### Set 1

Video clips and practice exercises for answering general questions about yourself in Phase 1 of the speaking test

#### Set 2

How to deal with questions about yourself in Phase 2; what to do when you do not have a ready answer; making notes on speaking topics

#### Set 3

Introduction and tips on Phase 3; video analysis of candidates' performance in Phase 3

#### Set 4

Review of tenses to use when answering questions about yourself; video analysis of a candidate's performance in Phase 1

### Advice and Tutorials

Format: Video



- **Title: IELTS Speaking Advice**  
Advice on how to improve performance in the IELTS Speaking test
- **Title: What the examiner is looking for**  
IELTS experts provide insight into how examiners assess candidate performance in the speaking test
- **Title: Advice: What do I talk about?**  
Advice and tips on how to deal effectively with subjects about which you have insufficient knowledge
- **Title: Advice: Coping with nerves**  
IELTS experts provide insight into how examiners assess candidate performance in the speaking test
- **Title: Tutorial: Interview phase 2**  
IELTS experts provide insight into how examiners assess candidate performance in phase 2
- **Title: Tutorial: Interview phase 3**  
IELTS experts provide insight into how examiners assess candidate performance in phase 3

#### Set 5

Advice and strategies on speaking fluently and confidently; video analysis of what to say when you are asked about a topic you do not know much about

#### Set 6

How to deal with Phase 2 speaking topics; responding effectively to follow-up questions; analysis of ways of stating reasons

#### Set 7

Preparing effectively for the speaking test; review of how examiners assess candidates; video analysis of how to talk extensively on a topic

#### Set 8

Strategies on giving reasons during the individual long turn in Phase 2; video analyses on candidates talking about social problems in their countries; comparative forms

#### Set 9

Techniques for making comparisons; phrases for speculating; video analyses of two candidates making speculations

#### Set 10

Effective strategies for speaking fluently in each phase of the speaking test; possible problems and how to avoid them

#### Set 11

Techniques for expanding on a topic; video analyses of candidates talking extensively on topics

#### Set 12

Dos and don'ts in the speaking test; video analyses on two candidates talking about a technological innovation

## Writing

### Starting Out

Format: PDF & video



Information about the IELTS Writing test, including explanations of writing task types and strategies for the best possible performance

### Test Practice

Format: Printable question paper, audio recordings



9 downloadable mock test papers of the IELTS Writing test; some include model answers

### Advice and Tutorials

Format: Video



- **Title: IELTS Writing Advice**  
Advice on how to improve performance in the IELTS Writing test
- **Title: What the examiner is looking for**  
IELTS experts provide insight into how examiners assess candidate performance in the writing test
- **Title: Advice: Writing task 2**  
Advice and strategies on tackling Task 2 of the Writing test
- **Title: Tutorial: Writing task 1**  
An IELTS expert analyses how well a candidate has responded in Task 1 of the General Training Writing test, with marks given; PDF download available
- **Title: Tutorial: Writing task 2**  
An IELTS expert analyses how well a candidate has responded in Task 2 of the Writing test, with marks and criteria given; PDF download available

### Practice Zone

Format: Interactive activities, organised into 12 individual sets

#### Set 1 task 1

Practice exercises for letters of introduction

#### Set 1 task 2

Introduction to for and against essays

#### Set 2 task 1

Practice exercises for letters giving advice

#### Set 2 task 2

Practice exercises for compositions discussing arguments for and against

#### Set 3 task 1

Practice exercises for letters asking for information

#### Set 3 task 2

Practice exercises for compositions giving an opinion

#### Set 4 task 1

Practice exercises for letters of complaint

#### Set 4 task 2

Practice exercises for compositions discussing the causes of a problem and suggesting solutions

#### Set 5 task 1

Practice exercises for letters giving information

#### Set 5 task 2

Practice exercises for compositions discussing advantages and disadvantages

#### Set 6 task 1

Practice exercises for thank-you letters

#### Set 6 task 2

Practice exercises for compositions discussing arguments for and against

#### Set 7 task 1

Practice exercises for letters of apology

#### Set 7 task 2

Practice exercises for compositions giving an opinion

#### Set 8 task 1

Practice exercises for letters of application

#### Set 8 task 2

Practice exercises for compositions discussing the causes of a problem and suggesting solutions

#### Set 9 task 1

Revision exercises for Writing Task 1

## Writing

### Practice zone (cont.)

#### Set 9 task 2

Revision exercises for Writing Task 2

#### Set 10

Practice exercises for a letter asking for information, and for a composition discussing arguments for and against

#### Set 11

Practice exercises for a letter of advice, and for a composition giving and justifying your opinion

#### Set 12

Practice exercises for a letter of praise, and for a composition discussing the causes of a problem and suggesting solutions

## Resource Bank

### Candidate videos

Format: Video

In this series of British Council videos, successful candidates give advice on preparation strategies that worked for them.

### Study Planner

Format: PDF

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### Study Guides

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